
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 26, 1896.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. PALMER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 3152.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3152) granting a pension to Charlotte A. Welton, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto appended, is adopted and the passage of the bill is recommended.

HOUSE REPORT.

The beneficiary in this bill, Charlotte A. Welton, is the widow of John A. Welton, late lieutenant of Company E, Fifty-first Indiana Volunteers. The testimony offered in support of this bill conclusively shows that on or about the 1st day of May, 1863, at Days Gap, Ala., in the absence of the first lieutenant and captain of Company E, Fifty-first Indiana Volunteers, Second Lieutenant Welton was in command of the company and commanded the same that day in a charge made on the rebel forces. That while leading his company in said charge he received a gunshot wound in the leg below the knee, breaking the bone, and he was left upon the field while the Federal forces moved on, and while there upon the field was captured by the enemy and his leg amputated by a Confederate surgeon, and was left at a house in this wounded condition, where he remained about six months before he was able to return to his home.

The testimony further discloses that the amputation was carelessly done, and that for the want of suitable and proper care the wound never healed and continued to grow worse, discharging pus continuously, except at intervals, up to the time of his death. He was drawing a pension of \$15 per month at the time of his death, and a certificate was subsequently issued to his wife, and she continued to draw the same until the year 1877 when she was dropped from the pension roll for the alleged reason that the testimony did not show the soldier to have died of the wound mentioned. She subsequently applied for and obtained a pension of \$8 per month under the law of 1890. Two reputable physicians who attended and were well acquainted with the deceased gave it as their opinion that the death of the soldier was the result of this wound; that, while he was attended with high fever, it was the necessary and natural result of the wound. This testimony is corroborated by many witnesses. The widow of the deceased is a reputable woman, still remains his widow, and is possessed of no means worth mentioning aside from the pension of \$8 per month.

Your committee, having no doubt of the correctness of the foregoing propositions believe this case to be one that calls for the special intervention of Congress, and therefore report the bill back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.